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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the paragraph before paragraph [0001] on page 1 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a Divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/985,671 filed November 5, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,676,773 ~~currently pending~~.

Please REPLACE paragraph [0054] on page 18 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0054] When the hydrogen pulverization process is completed, the coarsely pulverized alloy powder should preferably be unloaded from the hydrogen furnace in an inert atmosphere so as not to be exposed to the air. This prevents oxidation or heat generation of the coarsely pulverized powder and improves the magnetic properties of the resultant magnet. The coarsely pulverized material alloy is then stuffed into a plurality of material packs, which will be placed on a rack. Any of the apparatuses and methods for the hydrogen pulverization described in co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/503,738, filed on Feb. 15, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,403,024, which is incorporated herein by reference, are useful in various preferred embodiments of the present invention.

Please REPLACE paragraph [0078] on page 26 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0078] In this preferred embodiment, R-rich super-fine powder particles are removable appropriately. Accordingly, the concentration of oxygen in the powder is controllable at about 6,000 ppm by mass or less by regulating the concentration of oxygen in the inert atmosphere during the fine pulverization process. However, unless those R-rich super-fine powder particles were removed, the volume fraction of the

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super-fine powder particles would exceed approximately 10% of the total volume of powder particles collected. In that case, no matter how much the concentration of oxygen in the inert atmosphere is reduced, the concentration of oxygen in the finally obtained powder should exceed about 6,000 ppm by mass. It should be noted that if the powder is compacted in the air, the powder preferably contains oxygen at 3,500 ppm or more as disclosed in United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/801,096 ~~09/806,096~~, which is hereby incorporated by reference.